



Central Iowa Power Cooperative

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



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May 18, 2011

Chairman Julius Genachowski  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

One of many issues now before the FCC is the request for merger approval between T-Mobile USA and AT&T. This is understandably an important matter for many Americans, particularly those currently without access or with limited access to high-speed wireless technology.

As the CEO of Central Iowa Power Cooperative (CIPCO), an electric generation and transmission cooperative that serves residents in rural and suburban areas, I can appreciate what this merger will mean if and when completed. My understanding is that the approved merger will result in an additional \$8 billion of investment nationally over seven years to expand and improve technology infrastructure. That level of investment will facilitate new opportunities for Iowa and bring mobile technology to much of Iowa's traditionally underserved areas.

CIPCO is a wholesale power supplier to residents in 58 of Iowa's 99 counties, which includes a population of 320,000 residents stretching 300 miles across the state. This area is comprised of many neighborhoods, schools and businesses which stand to gain from enhanced wireless and digital technology options, along with more available access.

At CIPCO, we work to provide better overall service and quality of life to individuals and families in our service territory and supports efforts to provide better broadband options in all communities. As President Obama and the country strive for 100 percent broadband coverage in America, I see this merger playing a significant role in achieving that objective.

I believe this merger and the continued progress of our Internet infrastructure will provide Iowa and other states more equitable access to new opportunities. The implications of the FCC's decision will be far reaching, and I sincerely hope the FCC acts in the interest of small towns and rural communities.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Dennis L. Murdock  
Executive Vice President & CEO

CC: Commissioner Michael Copps  
Commissioner Robert McDowell  
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn  
Commissioner Meredith Attwell Baker